



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Riverside Police Department receives \$500,000 grant

Federal funding for DNA matches could help solve violent cold cases

Riverside, CA -- The Riverside Police Department has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. This "Solving Cold Cases with DNA" Grant provides funds to identify, review, and investigate violent "cold cases" that have the potential to be solved using DNA analysis.

A collaborative effort with the Riverside Police Department, the California Bureau of Forensic Services, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, and private DNA laboratories, will work together to help solve several of the more than 100 violent, unsolved cold cases in RPD files.

The funding will allow Riverside Police to use private laboratories to test DNA for potential matches, in addition to for the state Department of Justice crime lab.

In 2007, a Riverside Police detective used DNA testing of cold case evidence to identify and arrest suspects in two separate open murder investigations. The suspect in the 2004 murder of a landscaper was recently convicted for the crime. The suspect in the 1985 murder of former Riverside police officer who was serving as a bank security guard, shot during a bank robbery, is currently awaiting trial.

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